

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a preferred embodiment, linear stepper motor, comprising; an annular stator structure; an axially extending, cylindrical, permanent magnet shaft  
5 extending coaxially through said annular stator structure; and the axially  
extending, cylindrical, permanent magnet shaft having a smooth external surface  
along a portion thereof with axially alternating N and S poles defined  
circumferentially in an outer periphery of the portion of the axially extending,  
cylindrical, permanent magnet shaft. The present invention also provides a  
10 method of magnetizing the shaft of such a motor and a fixture and method of  
manufacturing the fixture therefor.

0978479-034304